

Message Text

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, SU
SUBJECT: USG/GOS RELATIONS: POSSIBLE DENG VISIT TO WASHINGTON
IN FEBRUARY

1. FOLLOWING TALK WITH NIMEIRI REPORTED SEPARATELY, I HAD AN HOUR WITH MINSTATE FONAFFS FRANCIS DENG ON BILATERAL MATTERS. DENG SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH PRESENTATION DEPT HAD AUTHORIZED, WHICH WOULD BE HELPFUL IN COUNTERING CONTINUED CARPING BY ANTI-US ELEMENTS WITHIN GOS WHO FELT SUDAN HAD GONE TOO FAR IN COURTING US IN LIGHT OF RETURNS SO FAR RECEIVED. I REMINDED HIM SUDANESE HAD BROKEN RELATIONS IN 1967 AND CAUSED SUSPENSION OUR AID IN 1974. AFTER SUCH INTERRUPTION, TIME WAS REQUIRED LAY BASIS FOR RENEWED PROGRAMS. URGED HIM REMIND ALL HANDS BOTH AS TO NEED FOR PATIENCE AND IMPORTANCE OF ALLOWING TIME FOR APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIP TO MATURE. THIS, UNDER AID/W REGULATIONS, COULD NOT HAPPEN OVERNIGHT BUT IT COULD HAPPEN.

2. I THEN RECALLED OUR CONVERSATION IN KADUGLI JAN 1, WHEN DENG HAD NOTED FONMINISTRY PREPARING REPORT FOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ON RESULTS NIMEIRI'S US TRIP. DENG HAD FEARED HIS STAFF HAD LESS COMPLETE IDEA STATUS USG PROGRAMS AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS THAN EMBASSY AND HAD ASKED FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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LISTING OF VARIOUS STEPS. NOTING IT RAN TO SEVERAL PAGES, I THEN GAVE DENG COPY (TEXT POUCHED AF/E) WHICH HE STUDIED CAREFULLY AND SAID WOULD BE BIG HELP IN ILLUSTRATING TO GENERALITY OF SUDANESE EXTENT TO WHICH FRUITFUL CONTACTS WERE REVIVING.

3. REFERRING TO DENG'S PROSPECTIVE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, I THEN

SAID I KNEW AF ASST SECY SCHAUFELD WOULD BE GLAD TO SEE HIM (STATE 008923). MORE SENIOR OFFICIALS OF NEW ADMINISTRATION, ON OTHER HAND, WOULD JUST BE SETTLING INTO THEIR JOBS AND MIGHT NOT BE EQUALLY ACCESSIBLE. DENG GOT THE POINT. WHILE HE REFERRED SOMEWHAT VAGUELY TO A LETTER WHICH IS AWAITING THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE, HE SAID HIW OWN TRIP HAD BEEN POSTPONED TO MID-FEBRUARY AND THAT HE HAD, HIMSELF, CONCLUDED THAT EFFORTS BRIEF AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN, BLACKS AND NON-USG OFFICIALS GENERALLY ON SITUATION IN SUDAN MIGHT REPRESENT PREFERRED COURSE. I QUICLY CONCURRED. DENG NOW EXPECTS ARRIVE WASHINGTON APPROXIMATELY FEBRUARY 12 AND INDICATED HE WOULD SEE SCHAUFELD BEFORE CONSIDERING EXTENT TO WHICH MORE SENIOR OFFICIALS MIGHT PROVE APPROACHABLE.

3. COMMENT: DENG CLEARLY HOPES TO RENEW CONTACT WITH HIS CONGRESSIONAL FRIENDS AND SPOKE WARMLY OF DESIRE FOR FURTHER MEETING WITH MANHATTEN BOROUGH PRESIDENT PERCY SUTTON WHO HAD MUCH IMPRESSED HIM AT RECENT AAI-SPONSORED LESOTHO CONFERENCE. WHILE POSSIBILITY HIS BEARING LETTER FROM NIMEIRI CANNOT BE EXCLUDED, BELIEVE HE WILL CONCERT WITH AF BEFORE SEEKING APPOINTMENTS WITH TOP-LEVEL NEW ADMINISTRATION. IN LIGHT RECENT AREA DEVELOPMENTS BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF HE COULD AT LEAST HAVE BRIEF MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY HABIB TO REFLECT OUR APPRECIATION DENG'S CABINET RANK AND INFLUENCE HERE. BREWER

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